

Message Text

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13

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PHNOM PENH 16517

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E.O.11652: N/A

SUBJECT: FULBRIGHT PROGRAM, CAMBODIA

FOR CU/EA

REF: L.M. PETERS LETTER 20 NOVEMBER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION HERE IN AGREEMENT ON "NO PHD" PRINCIPLE. MA PROGRAM MOST SUITABLE TO MEEK GKR AND MISSION NEEDS FOR PRESENT. DESERVING CAMBODIAN CANDIDATES WILL HAVE TO RELY ON FINDING OTHER RESOURCES FOR PHD PROGRAMS. WHILE EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO TIGHTEN SELECTION PROCESS, MINISTER OF EDUCATION PAN SOTHI POINTS OUT THAT STUDENTS ON FULBRIGHT GRANTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY BONDED FOR TEN YEARS GOVERNMENT SERVICE ON THEIR RETURN TO CAMBODIA. STUDENTS THEMSELVES ARE CIRCUMVENTING THIS LAW. SUGGESTION BY BOTH MISSION AND MINISTER THAT DEPARTMENT AND IIE, THROUGH FOREIGN STUDENT ADVISERS, E.G., MAINTAIN CLOSER CONTACT WITH CAMBODIAN STUDENTS AND DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THEIR RETURN FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF MA STUDEIES. GENERAL AGREEMENT HERE THAT MINISTRY, MISSION, DEPARTMENT AND IIE MUST MAINTAIN CLOSER COMMUNICATION ON STUDENTS' INTENTIONS AS STUDENT'S DEGREE PROGRAM APPROACHES CONCLUSION.
MCHALE

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